

E-rate 2016

Category 1 and Category 2 Eligible Expenses

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Eligible Services Overview

Category 1: Brings Internet service to buildings

- *Internet Access*
- *Data circuits carrying Internet traffic to schools*
- *Phone services (being phased out)*

Category 2: Provides Internet service within buildings

- *Network components within school buildings*
- *Maintenance of network components*
- *3rd party network management*
- *General test: does Internet traffic flow through it?*

Eligible Services Overview

Funding Limits

Category 1: No Limit

Category 2: \$150 per student

- *This is your Category 2 “budget”*
- *The budget is calculated per school, not per district*
- *Each building’s total budget can be spent throughout the 5 year period from 2015 to 2019*
- *Example: a school with 100 students has a 5-year Category 2 budget of \$15,000*

Eligible Category 1 Services

Any leased data service

- *WAN connections between buildings*
- *Data conduits to the Internet (such as Badgernet retail)*

Internet access fees

- *Example: Wiscnet*

Bundled Internet services

- *Provide both conduit and access to the Internet*
- *Example: Charter*

Category 2: Eligible Services

What does Category 2 Cover?

- *Resources needed within a building to bring the Internet to the desktop or mobile device*
- *Includes firewalls, routers, switches, cabling, and wireless controllers and access points*
- *Includes network management services provided by a third party*
- *Includes basic maintenance*
- *Each school's funding is limited by a 5 year budget*

Category 2: Eligible Services

All school districts should take advantage of this opportunity to upgrade and modernize their networks.

- *60% of Wisconsin school districts did not make Category 2 applications last year.*
- *You should already be identifying your network improvement needs, so you can address them in your Form 470*

Category 2: Eligible Equipment

“Internal Connections”: eligible components

- *Firewalls*
- *Routers*
- *Switches*
- *Equipment racks*
- *UPS*
- *Cabling*
- *Caching servers and devices*
- *Wireless Controllers*
- *Wireless Access Points*
- *Software and software upgrades needed to support Internal Connections devices*

Category 2: Eligible Services

Managed Internal Connections services

- *Externally managed wireless*
- *Cloud-based virtual switches and routers*
- *Competitive bids must include in-building hardware-based options (actual switches and routers, internally hosted)*

Category 2: Eligible Services

Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections

- *Applies to all Internal Connections equipment and services. Includes:*
- *Basic tech support*
- *Repair and upkeep of hardware*
- *Configuration changes*
- *Wire and cable maintenance*

Category 2: Eligible Services

Additional eligible charges:

- *Shipping*
- *Taxes*
- *Surcharges*
- *Training*

Category 2: Eligible Services

Ineligible charges

- *Unbundled warranties such as Smartnet*
- *Unused service hours within prepaid blocks*
- *Filtering*
- *Servers, other than caching servers*
- *Network threat reduction (antivirus and anti-malware software and devices)*

Category 2 Budgets

The basics, for schools:

- *Budget period is 2015-2019*
- *Budget over the 5-year period is \$150/student*
- *Budget is applied to schools individually (not averaged across schools in a districts)*
- *Budget amount is pre-discount (covers cost of services as billed, not after discount)*
- *Schools can spend their whole budget in one year, or any portion of it in any year within the 5 year period*
- *If your student count in a building goes up or down, your budget goes up or down accordingly*
- *Category 1 services are not limited by any budget*

Category 2 Budgets

The basics, for libraries:

- *Library budgets are \$2.30/square foot*
- *Libraries smaller than 4,000 square feet have a fixed budget of \$9,200*
- *Libraries in cities of \$250,000 or greater have a budget of \$5/square foot*

Category 2 Budgets

Finer points:

- *Schools with fewer than 62 students have a fixed budget of \$9,200*
- *Non-instructional facilities (“NIFs”) are not eligible for Category 2 funding, except for equipment hosted on their site that provides service to instructional facilities, such as*
 - *Routers*
 - *Switches*
 - *Firewalls*
 - *Wireless Controllers*
- *Wireless access points within NIFs are not eligible*